

1. (Eight Times Amended) A biomedical device comprising a substrate and a polypeptide growth factor associated with the substrate by covalent bonding using crosslinking agents, antibody-antigen associations, specific binding protein-receptor associations or enzyme-substrate associations, wherein the crosslinking agents comprise at least two aldehyde functional groups that form covalent bonds to link the crosslinking agent directly with the polypeptide growth factor and the substrate, the polypeptide growth factor associated with the substrate being effective to stimulate association of viable cells with the substrate.

el 1
41. (New) A prosthesis comprising a substrate and a polypeptide growth factor associated with the substrate, the polypeptide growth factor being effective to stimulate association of viable cells with the substrate, wherein the polypeptide growth factor comprises Tat protein.

el 2
42. (New) The prosthesis of claim 41 further comprising an adhesive, the adhesive being associated with the polypeptide growth factor and the substrate.

43. (New) The biomedical device of claim 1 comprising a crosslinking agent.

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for favorable consideration and allowance of claims 28, 29, and 33.

In response to the Office Action dated October 22, 2002, claims 11-12, 16-17, and 30-32 are canceled without prejudice in view of the restriction requirement. Claim 1 has been amended. New claims 41-43 have been added. Support for claim 41 can be found throughout the specification, for example, in original claim 14. Support for claim 42 can also be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 15-16. Support for claim 43 can also be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 17, lines 5-8. No new matter has been added.